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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 10 Oct. 1950

SUBJECT The Rumanian Army

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1. The Rumanian Government is making great efforts to win the sympathy of the army. "Comradeship" between officers and enlisted men is stressed. Despite the special advantages given to the army, however, the soldiers maintain close ties with their families and villages. It is reported that certain troops were ordered to write their families strongly recommending that they join collective farms. The letters were written, but on the following day the men attempted to communicate with their families through other channels, advising them to disregard the letters and avoid entering collective farms.
2. The authorities make every effort to minimize religious holidays and place especial emphasis on political anniversaries. At Easter 1950 troops were given only one day of leave and the colored Easter eggs that are traditional in Rumania were prohibited. On the other hand, three days leave were given for 1 May. It is reported that several army units have shown dissatisfaction at this disregard of the traditional holidays.
3. Officers of the reserve are subjected to endless formalities when their papers receive the annual stamp. They are likewise required to complete extensive questionnaires that contain detailed queries on their activities and attitudes. Among the items covered in such questionnaires are the following:
 - a. View of the annexation of Bessarabia.*
 - b. Opinion toward the Rumanian Monarchy.
 - c. Attitude toward the coup d'etat of 23 August.
 - d. Membership in political parties.
 - e. Activities during the Iron Guard rebellion of January 1941.
4. The purge of army officers, especially general officers, continues. A majority of the high-ranking officers of the army received their training under the old regime and are not trusted. Officers of lower rank and non-commissioned officers, on the other hand, are more generally trusted by the regime since many of them have a background of Communist activity or are former non-commissioned officers who have been promoted.

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5. Military instruction and training apparently follow traditional Rumanian methods. The weapons of the army reportedly are old types; new weapons have not yet been supplied.

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